

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method in a computer system for tracking and processing redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, the computer system maintaining a multi-vendor rebate list with rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors, comprising:

receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from a vendor; and
in response to the received message, dispensing information related to a portion of
the multi-vendor- rebate- list, in response to a multi vendor rebate list message relating to
associated with a the vendor.

2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim claim 1, wherein said the
dispensing information related to a the portion of the multi-vendor- rebate- list, in response to a
multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includescomprises:

transmitting data to inform a manufacturer vendor of specific rebate data.

3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim claim 2, wherein said the
transmitting data to inform a manufacturer the vendor of specific rebate data includesfurther
comprises:

transmitting data to inform the-a manufacturer of at least one a payment due or
owed to at least one retailer, where suchthe payment is-based, at least in part, on a record having
at least one recorded rebate transaction.

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 2, wherein saidthe transmitting data to inform a manufacturerthe vendor of specific rebate data further includescomprises:

transmitting data to inform thea manufacturer of at least onea payment due or owed to at least one retailer, where suchthe payment is-based, at least in part, on a record having at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim1claim 2, wherein saidthe transmitting data to inform the vendor of specific rebate data dispensing information related to a multi vendor rebate list, in response to a multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includescomprises:

transmitting data to inform at least oneof a manufacturer, a wholesaler, and a retailer of specific rebate data.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 2-5, wherein saidthe transmitting data to inform a retailerthe vendor of specific rebate data further includescomprises:

transmitting data to inform thea retailer of at least onea payment due or owed to the retailer, where suchthe payment is-based, at least in part, on a record having at least one recorded rebate transaction.

7. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 2-5, wherein saidthe transmitting data to inform a retailerthe vendor of specific rebate data further includescomprises:

transmitting data to inform thea retailer of at least onea payment due or owed to the retailer, where suchthe payment is-based, at least in part, on a record having at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 1, wherein saidthe dispensing information related to athe portion of the multi-vendor- rebate- list, in response to a multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includescomprises:

recording a rebate transaction.

9. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 8, wherein ~~said~~the recording ~~at~~the rebate transaction further comprises~~includes~~:

adjusting a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter in response to ~~at~~the message, associated with ~~at least one rebate related vendor~~, that a rebate vehicle has been ~~scanned~~redeemed.

10. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 9, wherein the rebate vehicle comprises at least one of a coupon ~~or~~and an in-store special.

11. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~at~~the portion of the multi-vendor- rebate- list, ~~in response to~~ a multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further comprises~~includes~~:

sending a response message that a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter has been adjusted in response to a message ~~from~~ ~~at least one rebate related vendor~~ that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed ~~scanned~~.

12. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~at~~the portion of the multi-vendor- rebate- list, ~~in response to~~ a multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includes~~comprises~~:

sending a response message —~~containing~~that contains at least one ~~of~~ part selected from the group comprising a value of a rebate, and at least one limit on a quantity of a rebate — in response to a message, ~~associated with~~ ~~at least one rebate related vendor~~, that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed ~~scanned~~.

13. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein the received multi-vendor rebate list related message is dispensing information related to a multi vendor rebate list, ~~in response to~~ a multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includes:

~~receiving a message, associated with a vendor, that at least one rebate vehicle associated with the vendor has been scanned~~redeemed.

14. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 13, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~a~~the message, ~~associated with a vendor, that at least one rebate vehicle has been scanned~~redeemed ~~has been scanned~~ further ~~includes~~comprises:

~~checking~~determining from the message for an ~~indicia~~indication of origination ~~of~~the rebate vehicle.

15. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 13, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~ing~~a message, ~~associated with a vendor, that at least one rebate vehicle has been scanned~~redeemed is ~~further~~includes:

~~receiving a message~~ associated with at least one scanner of the vendor.

16. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 15, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~a~~the message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further ~~includes~~comprises:

receiving the message via at least one central computer.

17. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 15, wherein ~~said~~the receiving ~~a~~the message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further ~~includes~~comprises:

receiving the message via at least one computer local to at least one of a retailer ~~or~~ and a manufacturer.

18. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information ~~related to a~~receiving the multi-vendor-rebate- list, ~~in response to a~~ multi-vendor-rebate-list ~~related~~ message associated with ~~a~~from the vendor further comprises:

receiving a message inquiring as to monies owed.

19. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list related message associated with a from the vendor further comprising:
~~comprising~~

receiving a message associated with at least one of a retailer or and a manufacturer.

20. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a-the portion of the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor further includes~~comprises~~:

transmitting data to inform a vendor as to monies owed for ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a-the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

21. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 1, further comprising:
~~transmitting billing data to a vendor for said~~the dispensing information related to a-the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

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22. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 21, wherein ~~said~~the transmitting billing data to the vendor for ~~said~~the dispensing information related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list further comprises:

transmitting billing data having a fee selected from a group comprising a fee based upon at least one of answering an inquiry as to monies owed, a fee based on a value of rebate transactions, and a fee based on a number of rebate transactions.

23. (Currently amended) A system for tracking and redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, the system maintaining a multi-vendor rebate list with rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors, comprising:

means for receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from a vendor; and
means for dispensing information related to a-the multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor.

24. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 23, wherein saidthe means for dispensing information related to athe multi-vendor-rebate-list, in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includescomprises:
transmitting data to inform a manufacturervendor of specific rebate data.

25. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 24, wherein saidthe means for transmitting data to inform amanufacturerthe vendor of specific rebate data includesfurther comprises:

means for transmitting data to inform thea manufacturer of at least onea payment due or owed to at least one retailer, where suchthe payment is based, at least in part, on arecord having at least one recorded rebate transaction.

26. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 24, wherein saidthe means for transmitting data to inform amanufacturerthe vendor of specific rebate data further includescomprises:

means for transmitting data to inform thea manufacturer of at least onea payment due or owed to at least one retailer, where suchthe payment is based, at least in part, on arecord having at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

27. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 24, wherein saidthe means for transmittingdatatoinform thevendorofspecificrebatedatadispensinginformation relatedtoamulti-vendorrebatelist, inresponsetoamulti-vendorrebatelistmessageassociatedwithavendor further includescomprises:

means for transmitting data to inform at least oneofamanufacturer,awholesaler,andaretailer of specific rebate data.

28. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 24-27, wherein said~~the~~ means for transmitting data to inform ~~a retailer~~the vendor of specific rebate data further includes~~comprises~~:

means for transmitting data to inform ~~the~~a retailer of ~~at least one~~a payment due or owed to the retailer, ~~where such~~the payment is-based, at least in part, on a record having at least one recorded rebate transaction.

29. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 24-27, wherein said~~the~~ means for transmitting data to inform ~~a retailer~~the vendor of specific rebate data ~~means for informing a retailer of specific rebate data~~ further includes~~comprises~~:

means for transmitting data to inform ~~the~~a retailer of ~~at least one~~a payment due or owed to the retailer, ~~where such~~the payment is-based, at least in part, on a record having at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

30. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein said~~the~~ means for dispensing information related to ~~a the multi-vendor- rebate- list, in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor~~ further includes~~comprises~~:

means for recording a rebate transaction.

31. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 30, wherein said~~the~~ means for recording ~~a the~~ rebate transaction further includes~~comprises~~:

means for adjusting a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter in response to ~~a the message, associated with at least one rebate related vendor, that a rebate vehicle has been scanned~~redeemed.

32. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 31, wherein the rebate vehicle comprises at least one of a coupon ~~or and~~ an in-store special.

33. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said~~the means for dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, ~~in response to a~~ ~~multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includes~~comprises:

means for sending a response message that a rebate vehicle volume-of-usage counter has been adjusted in response to a message from at least one rebate related vendor that a rebate vehicle has been scannedredeemed.

34. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said~~the means for dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, ~~in response to a~~ ~~multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further includes~~comprises:

means for sending a response message —~~containing~~that contains at least one of part selected from the group comprising a value of a rebate, and at least one limit on a quantity of a rebate —~~in response to a message, associated with at least one rebate related vendor that a rebate vehicle has been~~scannedredeemed.

35. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said~~the means for dispensing information related to a multi-vendor rebate list, ~~in response to a~~ ~~multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor received multi-vendor rebate list related message further includes~~comprises:

~~means for receiving a message, associated with a vendor, is~~ that at least one rebate vehicle has been scannedredeemed.

36. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 35, wherein ~~said~~the means for receiving a ~~the~~ message, ~~associated with a vendor,~~ that at least one rebate vehicle has been scannedredeemed ~~has been scanned~~ further includes~~comprises~~:

means for ~~ckecking~~determining from the message for an ~~indieia~~indication of origination of the rebate vehicle.

37. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 35, wherein saidthe ~~means for receiving~~received a message, ~~associated with a vendor~~, that at least one rebate vehicle has been scanned redeemed is further includes:

~~means for receiving a message~~ associated with at least one scanner of the vendor.

38. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 37, wherein saidthe means for receiving athe message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further includescomprises:

means for receiving the message via at least one central computer.

39. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 37, wherein saidthe means for receiving athe message associated with the at least one scanner of the vendor further includescomprises:

means for receiving the message via at least one computer local to at least one of a retailer orand a manufacturer.

40. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 23, wherein saidthe means for ~~dispensing information related to~~receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list related, in response to a multi vendor rebate list message associated with afrom the vendor further comprises:

means for receiving a message inquiring as to monies owed.

41. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 23, wherein saidthe means for ~~dispensing information related to~~receiving the multi-vendor-rebate-list related, in response to a multi vendor rebate list message associated with afrom the vendor further comprisingcomprises:

means for receiving a message associated with at least one of a retailer orand a manufacturer.

42. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, wherein ~~said~~the means for dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list, ~~in response to a multi-vendor-rebate-list message associated with a vendor further includes~~comprises:

~~means for transmitting data to inform a vendor as to monies owed for~~ ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

43. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 23, further comprising:
~~means for transmitting billing data to a vendor for~~ ~~said~~the dispensing information related to ~~a~~the multi-vendor-rebate-list.

44. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 43, wherein ~~said~~the means for transmitting billing data ~~to the vendor for~~ ~~said~~the dispensing information ~~related to a multi-vendor-rebate-list~~ further comprises:

~~means for transmitting billing data having a fee selected from a group comprising a fee based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, ~~a fee based on a value of rebate transactions, and a fee based on a number of rebate transactions.~~

45. (Currently amended) A method ~~in a computer system for tracking and processing redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, the computer system maintaining a multi-vendor rebate list with rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors, comprising:~~

~~displaying information in response to receiving a multi-vendor-rebate-list vendor identifier.~~

46. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein the vendor identifier further ~~includes~~comprises:

~~the vendor identifier selected from the vendor identifier list comprising is at least one of a user identifier, a password, a cookie, and an encrypted symbol.~~

47. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 45, wherein saidthe displaying information in response to a multi vendor rebate list vendor identifier further includescomprises:

displaying manufacturervendor-specific rebate data.

48. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 47, wherein saidthe displaying manufacturervendor-specific rebate data further includescomprises:

displaying at least onea payment due or owed to at least one retailer.

49. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 48, wherein saidthe displaying at least onethe payment due or owed to at least one retailer further includescomprises:

displaying at least onethe payment due or owed to the at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction.

50. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 48, wherein saidthe displaying at least onethe payment due or owed to at least one retailer further includescomprises:

displaying at least onethe payment due or owed to the at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

51. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 48, wherein saidthe displaying at least onethe payment due or owed to at least one retailer further includescomprises:

displaying information regarding at least one of a coupon or and an in-store special transaction.

52. (Currently amended) The method of Claimclaim 4745, wherein saidthe displaying informationvendor-specific rebate data in response to a multi vendor rebate list vendor identifier includesfurther comprises:

displaying at least one of manufacturer-specific, wholesaler-specific, and retailer-specific rebate data.

53-56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein ~~said~~the displaying information ~~in response to a multi-vendor rebate list vendor identifier further comprises:~~

displaying a message as to monies owed.

58. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, wherein ~~said~~the dispensing ~~displaying~~ information ~~related to a multi-vendor rebate list, in response to a multi-vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further comprising~~comprises:

~~displaying in near real-time information receiving a message associated with one of a retailer or and a manufacturer that is identified by the received vendor identifier.~~

59. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 45, further comprising:

displaying billing data ~~to a vendor~~ related to dispensing information related to a ~~the multi-vendor- rebate- list~~.

60. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claim~~claim 59, wherein ~~said~~the displaying billing data ~~related to dispensing information related to a multi-vendor rebate list~~ further comprises:

displaying billing data ~~having a fee selected from a group comprising a fee based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, ~~a fee based on a value of rebate transactions, and a fee based on a number of rebate transactions.~~

61. (Currently amended) A ~~System~~system for tracking and redemption of rebates from a plurality of vendors, comprising:

~~a multi-vendor rebate list having rebate data for rebates associated with each of the vendors;~~

~~means for displaying information in response to receiving a multi-vendor- rebate- list vendor identifier.~~

62. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, wherein the vendor identifier further includes:

~~the vendor identifier selected from the vendor identifier list comprising~~ is at least one of a user identifier, a password, a cookie, and an encrypted symbol.

63. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 61, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying information ~~in response to a multi vendor rebate list~~ vendor identifier further includescomprises:

~~means for displaying manufacturer~~vendor-specific rebate data.

64. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 63, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying ~~manufacturer~~vendor-specific rebate data further includescomprises:

~~means for displaying at least one~~a payment due or owed to at least one retailer.

65. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 64, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying ~~at least one~~the payment due or owed to ~~at least one~~ retailer further includescomprises:

~~means for displaying at least one~~the payment due or owed to the at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction.

66. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 64, wherein ~~said~~the means for displaying ~~at least one~~the payment due or owed to ~~at least one~~ retailer further includescomprises:

~~means for displaying at least one~~the payment due or owed to the at least one retailer in conjunction with at least one recorded rebate transaction and a specified period of time.

67. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 64, wherein said the means for displaying at least one the payment due or owed to at least one retailer further includescomprises:

means for displaying information regarding at least one of a coupon or and an in-store special transaction.

68. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 6361, wherein said the means for displaying information the vendor-specific rebate data in response to a multi vendor-rebate list vendor identifier further includescomprises:

means for displaying at least one of manufacturer-specific, wholesaler-specific, and retailer-specific rebate data.

69-72. (Cancelled)

73. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 61, wherein said the means for displaying information in response to a multi vendor rebate list vendor identifier further comprises:

means for displaying a message as to monies owed.

74. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 61, wherein said the means for dispensing displaying information related to a multi vendor rebate list, in response to a multi vendor rebate list message associated with a vendor further comprisingcomprises:

means for displaying in near real-time information receiving a message associated with one of a retailer or and a manufacturer that is identified by the received vendor identifier.

75. (Currently amended) The system of Claimclaim 61, further comprising:

means for displaying billing data to a vendor related to dispensing information related to a the multi-vendor- rebate- list.

76. (Currently amended) The system of ~~Claim~~claim 75, wherein ~~said the~~ means for displaying billing data related to ~~dispensing information related to a multi-vendor rebate list~~ further comprises:

~~means for displaying billing data having a fee selected from a group comprising a fee-based upon at least one of~~ answering an inquiry as to monies owed, a fee based on a value of rebate transactions, and a fee based on a number of rebate transactions.

77. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the dispensing information further comprises:

~~dispensing information related to the portion of the multi-vendor rebate list in near real-time.~~

78. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from the vendor, further comprises:

~~receiving a message that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed by scanning.~~

79. (New) The method of claim 78 wherein the rebate vehicle is at least one of a coupon and an in-store discount.

80. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the means for dispensing information further comprises:

~~means for dispensing information related to the portion of the multi-vendor rebate list in near real-time.~~

81. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the means for receiving a multi-vendor rebate list related message from the vendor, further comprises:

~~means for receiving a message that a rebate vehicle has been redeemed using a scanner.~~

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82. (New) The system of claim 81 wherein the rebate vehicle is at least one of a coupon and an in-store discount.
